

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original) or (currently amended).

Please AMEND claims 1, 8, and 9 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) An optical recording medium comprising:
a plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces, each of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces having reflectances, r_1 , r_2 and r_3 , for light passing through first, second and third areas, respectively, on which data are recorded, of a data recording/reproducing surface included between a light source and another recording/reproducing surface selected from the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces, wherein the reflectances satisfy expressions $r_1 > r_2 > r_3$ and $\{(r_1 - r_3)/r_3\} \leq 0.2$. $r_1 \geq r_2 \geq r_3$ and $\{(r_1 - r_3)/r_1\} \leq 0.2$.
2. (original) The optical recording medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first, second and third areas are a pit area, a land/groove area, and a land/groove area on which data are recorded, respectively.
3. (original) The optical recording medium as claimed in claim 1, the medium comprising:
first and second substrates, each substrate supporting at least two of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces; and
a translucent bonding layer between the substrates which bonds the first and second substrates so that the at least two of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces on the first substrate faces the at least two of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces on the second substrate.
4. (original) The optical recording medium as claimed in claim 1, the medium comprising:
first and second substrates, each substrate supporting at least two of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces; and
an opaque bonding layer between the substrates which bonds the first and second

substrates so that the at least two of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces on the first substrate faces opposite the at least two of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces on the second substrate.

5. (original) A method of recording and/or reproducing data on an optical recording medium having a plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces, the method comprising:

recording data on or reproducing data from a recording/reproducing surface that is farther from a light source than a selected recording/reproducing surface by using light having an intensity that is increased by 4-20% more than a light intensity, P_r , used where recording or reproducing data on/from the selected recording/reproducing surface among the plurality of recording/reproducing surfaces.

6. (original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the recording or reproducing on the selected data recording/reproducing surface is performed by using light having the intensity P_r which is incident on a side of the optical recording medium.

7. (original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the recording or reproducing on the selected data recording/reproducing surface is performed by using light having the intensity P_r emitted from one of two light sources included at opposite sides of the optical recording medium.

8. (currently amended) An optical recording medium comprising:
a plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces, wherein:
a first of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces is interposed between an exterior surface of the recording medium and a second of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces;

the first of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surface has reflectances r_1 , r_2 and r_3 for light passing from the exterior surface through a pit area, a land/groove area, and a land/groove area on which data are recorded, respectively, of the first of the plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces; and

the reflectances r_1 , r_2 and r_3 satisfy the expressions ~~$r_1 > r_2 > r_3$ and $\{(r_1 - r_3)/r_3\} \leq 0.2$~~ $r_1 \geq r_2 \geq r_3$ and $\{(r_1 - r_3)/r_1\} \leq 0.2$.

9. (currently amended) The optical recording medium as claimed in claim 8, further

comprising:

a second plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces, wherein:

a first data recording/reproducing surface of the second plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces is interposed between a second exterior surface of the recording medium and a second data recording/reproducing surface of the second plurality of recording/reproducing surfaces, wherein:

the first recording/reproducing surface of the second plurality of recording/reproducing surfaces has reflectances r_1 , r_2 and r_3 for light passing through a pit area, a land/groove area, and a land/groove area on which data are recorded, respectively, of the first recording/reproducing surface of the second plurality; and

the reflectances satisfy the expressions $r_1 > r_2 > r_3$ and $\{(r_1 - r_3)/r_3\} \leq 0.2$ $r_1 \geq r_2 \geq r_3$ and $\{(r_1 - r_3)/r_1\} \leq 0.2$.

10. (original) The optical recording medium as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:
a first substrate which supports the first plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces;
a second substrate which supports the second plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces;

a translucent bonding layer which bonds the first and second substrates so that the first plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces faces the second plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces.

11. (original) The optical recording medium as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:
a first substrate which supports the first plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces;
a second substrate which supports the second plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces;

an opaque bonding layer which bonds the first and second substrates so that the first plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces faces opposite the second plurality of data recording/reproducing surfaces.

12. (original) A method of recording and/or reproducing data on a first data recording/reproducing surface of an optical recording medium having the first data recording/reproducing surface and a second data recording/reproducing surface, wherein the second data recording/reproducing surface is closer to a light source for recording/reproducing than the second data recording/reproducing surface, the method comprising:

determining a reflectance of a selected area of the second data recording/reproducing surface through which a light beam from the light source passes to record/reproduce data on the first data recording/reproducing surface;

increasing an intensity of the light beam used to record and/or reproduce data on the first data recording/reproducing surface relative to an intensity used to record/reproduce data on the second data recording/reproducing surface based on the reflectance in the selected area.

13. (original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the light beam intensity is increased by a factor of $1/(1-R)$ where R is the reflectance of the selected area and has a value in a range inclusive of 0.04 and 0.2.

14. (original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the selected area is a pit area.

15. (original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the selected area is a land/groove area.

16. (original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the selected area is a land/groove area on which data are recorded.

17. (original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the determining of the reflectance of the selected area comprises measuring a reflected amount of a light beam having a predetermined amount of defocus.